

Portable Notes on a USB Drive

Notes 8.0.1 may now be installed on a USB flash memory device. The USB flash drive can be plugged into any PC and allows you to run the Notes client without the usual install and setup. The advantages of using this are:

- Notes client with your sign on ID file can be carried with you on trips around Campus or around the world.
- Allows you to use the Notes client instead of the web interface.
- Allows you to access other Notes databases.
- It works on machines that may have limited user rights.
- Uninstalls itself when you are done.

I recently I gave the flash drive to someone that travels around the University using different conference rooms and the occasional spare PC. She is thrilled to have her Notes client, her ID file, contacts and all her bookmarks of other Notes databases with her at all times.

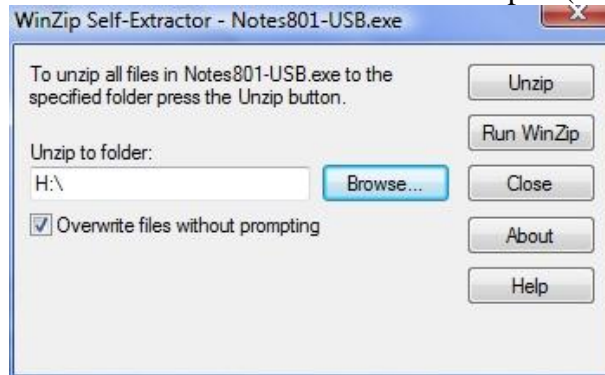
Caveats:

1. Your flash drive should be a USB 2 device and some of these are faster than others. Loading and executing Notes seems to be reasonably fast.
2. You should use a 512 MB flash drive or larger.
3. The bookmark and address databases that you copy to the flash drive are not updated as they reside on your PC not the Notes server. You can always re-copy or set up some sync-ing of these files.
4. This install will put some files on the root level of you USB drive. If you are a neat freak this will look messy but it is needed for the autorun function.
5. If this is an upgrade, you will go through the setup process again, but your Bookmark and Contacts will remain. You might want to re-copy them just to get the latest copies.


Ok, Let's Do it:

1. Go to Softweb (softweb.cc.sunysb.edu) and download the "Portable Notes" exe file to your desktop. This file is a self extracting zip file.
2. Insert the flash drive and remember its drive letter. *In my case it is H:\.* When actually using this, the drive letter will be dynamic depending on the number of drives on the computer you plug into. The software will accommodate this.

3. Double click the file downloaded in step 1. (Notes801-USB.exe)



4. Change the drive letter in the "Unzip to folder:" box above to the drive letter of your USB drive. *In my case it was H:*. Unzip the files to the USB drive. This may take a while, let it complete.
5. In your C:\lotus\notes\data folder find your ID file (yourname.ID), your contacts (names.nsf), your desktop (bookmark.nsf) and (desktop6.ndk) copy them to your USB drive in the NOTES\program files\lotus\notes\Data folder. They will replace the default files that are already there with your data. This will give Notes the look and feel of your desktop Notes.

You now have a working installation of Notes 8.0.1 Basic on your USB Flash Drive. This is all you need to work on any computer. To test it, close Notes on your computer then simply plug your USB Flash Drive into any computer and double click the  autorun.exe file on your USB Flash Drive. Yes, I think it is supposed to start automatically when you plug in the Flash Drive but I haven't gotten it to do that all the time. In fact, I like the option of using the Flash Drive for other things.

The first time Notes starts up, there is a configuration procedure that needs to be completed. You will see:



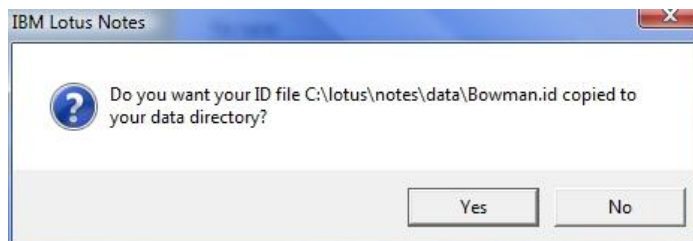
Click next:



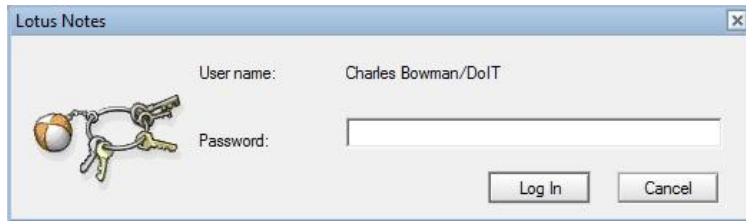
Enter your name and notes2.cc.sunysb.edu as the server. Notes will find your name in the public name and address book and use this information to set up this Notes client.
Click Next.



Browse to your ID file, either the one on your hard drive or the one you just copied to the USB flash drive. Make sure the path and file name are in the window and click next. As above. Click yes to message below.



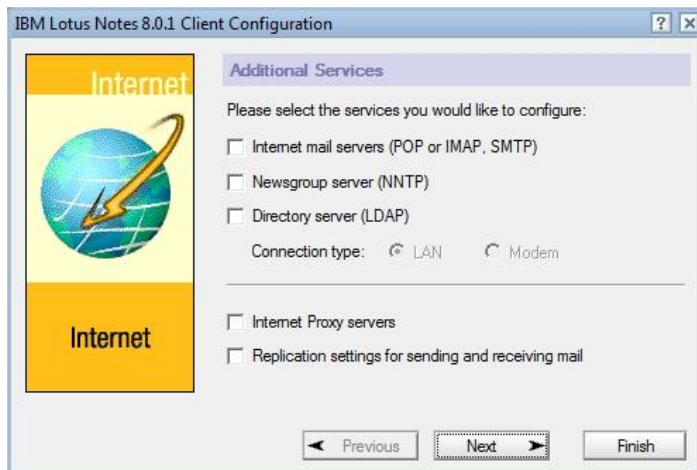
You will now have to type in your Notes client password, click OK.



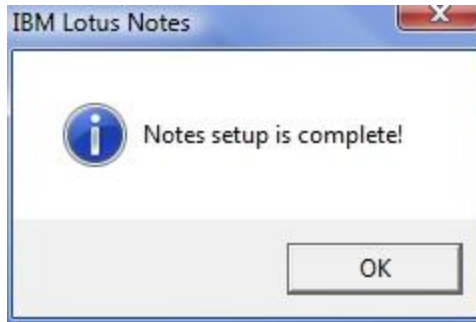
If you use Sametime instant messaging, put in the name of the Sametime server (noteslim1.cc.sunysb.edu/DoIT) or if not, uncheck the setup box below and click next.



Click next through the next dialog box as you will not need to set up anything else. Click Finish. That should do it.



You will get the following message:



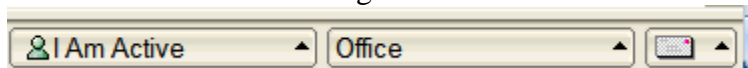
At this point you should test it by looking at your mail.

Copying other files

To make your portable Notes look just like your desktop Notes copy the following files from your desktop at: C:\Lotus\Notes\Data to your flash drive
H:\program files\IBM\Lotus\Notes\Data
Names.nsf
Bookmarks.nsf
Desktop6.ndk

Trouble Shooting

If it the client cannot find the Notes server, make sure the location document is set on Office in the lower right corner of the Notes client screen

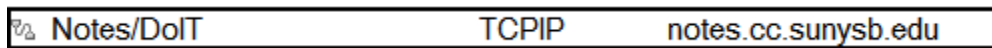


If you do not copy your names.nsf database to the USB drive, you may have to go through some set up screens for the location document creation.

If you do not want Notes to auto run, just rename the autorun.inf so that it will not be found by the ini files.

Connection Document

Since you may be using this away from Stony Brook, make sure that there is a connection document for Notes/DoIT in the Advanced / Connections part of the address book. Open address book and click on Advanced and click on Connections. If there is no connection for Notes/DoIT



click on New, Server Connection. On the Basics tab type in Notes/DoIT for Server Name and check TCPIP.



Go to the Advanced tab and type in Notes.cc.sunysb.edu for Destination server address.

Advanced

Only from:	<input type="text"/>	Destination server address:	<input type="text" value="notes.cc.sunysb.edu"/>
Location(s):	<input type="text"/>		
Only for user:	<input type="text" value="*"/>		
Usage priority:	<input type="text" value="Normal"/>		

Click on the save & close and you are done.

Note:

This install will auto-run Notes, however it may also ask you what to do with the files it found on the USB drive. If you want to just auto-run Notes and nothing else, go to My Computer, right click on the USB drive and select properties. Select “take no action” for each file type.